

known authorities. The concise discussions by the guest participants frequently were outstanding. Conflicting viewpoints were faithfully presented, giving testimony that "there are many roads to Rome." A high standard of practice was evident, and of course expected from such an able group of orthopaedic surgeons. In most instances the "cutting doctors" won out over the conservatives, and the method chosen usually led to the operating room and to the abundant supply of appliances for internal fixation. At a time when in many quarters the problem fractures of the tibia are less often treated by internal fixation and open reductions, the majority of the cases in this treatise were treated by open reduction, and in the diaphyseal fractures, more often than not, the transfixion was by a Lottes medullary rod.

Physical qualities of the book are good and the numerous roentgenograms are well reproduced.

The authors of this book would be the first to agree that the methods selected at MGH would not necessarily be the best, and certainly not the only good methods in other settings. It may be a matter for regret if certain of the methods presented are adopted in situations and settings where the method is not appropriate.

Textbook type of information is not presented, but the material presented would represent excellent supplementary reading and many pearls will be found by orthopaedic surgeons and others skilled in the management of problem fractures.

J. VERNON LUCK, M.D.

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**PERSPECTIVES IN VIROLOGY IV**—Edited by Morris Pollard, Lobund Laboratory, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana. Harper & Row, Publishers (Hoeber Medical Division), New York, 1965. 317 pages, \$10.50.

This volume, the fourth in the series, is a record of a conference held in October 1964 in New York under the auspices of the Gustav Stern Foundation to discuss the most significant recent developments in virology. This particular conference was dedicated to a consideration of "hidden viruses"; i.e., agents which are not primarily cytotoxic and usually manifest phenomena of latency. A delightful introduction by T. Francis recounts personal and professional events in the life of Richard Shope to whom this conference was dedicated.

Subsequent chapters summarize studies on latent infections in insects, plants, and animals with particular emphasis on experimental models which may aid in the understanding of mechanisms of latency. Much emphasis is placed on "defective viruses," the genome of which is incomplete in some way; e.g., in the ability to direct synthesis of a protein coat. Such agents may require "helper" viruses such as seen among Rous sarcoma strains.

These and other topics of tumor virology are discussed in separate brief chapters followed by a record of the ensuing discussion. The formal contributions are written by outstanding investigators. Most of the presentations are clear and concise, but all of them are addressed to the professional virologist and contain much technical slang. A majority of presentations are summaries of material published elsewhere and thus do not present new results or concepts. Perhaps the greatest value of the volume lies in the accumulation of thoughts and results of leading investigators in tumor virology and related areas.

In the opinion of this reviewer, few physicians will be interested in this volume unless they work actively in virology. Libraries serving research centers will buy the volume—they buy all serial volumes—and thus will afford individuals the opportunity of perusing this compilation.

ERNEST JAWETZ, M.D., Ph.D.

**CURRENT CONCEPTS OF CLINICAL GASTROENTEROLOGY**—Edited by John R. Gamble, M.D., Clinical Instructor in Medicine, University of California School of Medicine; Chief, Gastroenterology Clinic, Presbyterian Medical Center, San Francisco; and Dwight L. Wilbur, M.D., Clinical Professor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, Mass., 1965. 282 pages, \$11.00.

This book is composed of selected presentations given as part of a postgraduate course on "Progress in Gastroenterology" sponsored by the American Gastroenterological Association in cooperation with the University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, in May, 1963. The participants in the course were all distinguished investigators and clinicians and the material they presented bears the mark of authority.

Among the subjects selected for reproduction in the book are the following: assessment of gastric secretion; hormonal factors influencing gastric secretion; the effect of serotonin and various hormones on the gastrointestinal tract; newer aspects of pancreatic disease; gastrointestinal responses in connective tissue disease; newer information regarding hepatic circulatory changes, the ultrastructure of the liver, bilirubin metabolism, and the role of the liver fat metabolism; and the deleterious effects of drugs on the gastrointestinal tract. The emphasis throughout is on summarization of current knowledge. Each presentation is concise and informative and the accompanying illustrative material and tabular data are well chosen and organized.

For those who wish a neatly-printed, compact book in which may be found succinct summaries of newer information on certain important aspects of the structure, function, and disorders of the gastrointestinal tract, this volume may be highly recommended.

J. EDWARD BERK, M.D.

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**PROGRESS IN MEDICAL GENETICS—Volume IV**—Edited by Arthur G. Steinberg, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Department of Biology, and Associate Professor of Human Genetics, Department of Preventive Medicine, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio; and Alexander G. Bearn, M.D., Professor, The Rockefeller University; Senior Physician, Hospital of the Rockefeller University, New York. Grune & Stratton, Inc., New York and London, 1965. 280 pages, \$12.75.

Progress in Medical Genetics is a well written, informative, collection of review articles on selected topics related to medical genetics. Although the editors have wisely chosen specific subjects of broad general interest, the book represents a compendium of detailed reviews rather than a comprehensive review of all developments in this rapidly progressing field. Each of the eight monographs has been written by researchers of distinction and, in general, each article is readily comprehensible by a physician with only a peripheral interest in the particular subject. The choice of topics reviews a wide subject range, and almost every reader will find one or more articles of particular interest to him. Most of the authors admirably link basic science knowledge with clinical manifestations and provide sufficient background information that both the basic science and clinical information are meaningful. Furthermore, the techniques employed in the various areas of research are described in sufficient detail to enable the reader to comprehend general principles without being overwhelmed with a maze of specific details. Chapters are well referenced, including many articles published within the last year. This book is to be highly recommended to any physician who maintains an interest in recent developments in the selected topics of medical genetics.

ALAN WINKELSTEIN, M.D.